

This short list provides the largest and most powerful ‘finding’ sources county by county which are currently available to England family history researchers—for online indexed or transcribed *CMBs (christenings, marriages and burials).

Here’s a key to the best websites:

FS – FamilySearch.org

FMP - FindMyPast.co.uk

AC - Ancestry.co.uk

OPC – Lancashire, Sussex, Warwickshire, etc., “Online Parish Clerk”; Google to find

Joiner MI – Joiner Marriage Index; see at www.joinermarriageindex.org.uk (\$)

FHS – Family History Society; Google to find website by county name

Soc. Gen. – Society of Genealogists, London; see at www.sog.org.uk (\$)

TheGenealogist – see at www.TheGenealogist.co.uk (\$)

FreeReg – see at www.FreeReg.org.uk

These tips apply not just with conducting England searches, but for most countries with extensive data in the FamilySearch system. For example, the Church of England parish registers are indexed to approximately 65-70 percent completion—for the whole country. The slight majority of England counties are at least 75% complete. They are as follows:

Bedfordshire – 90%+

Berkshire – 75%

Buckinghamshire – 72%

Cambridgeshire – 76%

Cheshire – 80%+

Cornwall – 80%+

Cumberland – 90%+

Derbyshire – 85%+

Durham – 80%+

Gloucestershire – 80%+

Herefordshire – 85%+

Hertfordshire – 90%+

Lancashire – 75%+

Leicestershire – 75%

Lincolnshire – 90%+

London City (County) – 90%+

Middlesex (London) – 55%

Northumberland 90%+

Nottinghamshire – 80%+

Shropshire – 90%+

Staffordshire – 85%+

Surrey – 75%+

Sussex – 75%

Yorkshire – 75%



Here's a county by county listing of key websites holding significant databases for finding ancestry per above websites:

- **Bedfordshire:** FS (FS) – 1.2m or over 85% county coverage
- **Berkshire:** FS – has abt 1.2m or nearly 70% coverage; findmypast (FMP) has some
- **Buckinghamshire:** FS – has abt 4m or nearly 70% county coverage
- **Cambridgeshire:** Cambridgeshire FHS has indexed nearly 100% coverage to 1900; also at FHL)
- **Cheshire:** FS – 9m ~70% coverage; Cheshire Parish Register Project; Ancestry – 5m
- **Cornwall:** FS – 85%, Cornwall OPC – 80+% coverage; Boyds Marr. – 80%; FS – 1.6m
- **Cumberland:** FS – has 1.5m or abt 80+% county coverage
- **Derbyshire:** findmypast (FMP) – 5.3m 85% and FS – 4.2m 75%; Ancestry – 3.3m
- **Devonshire:** FMP – 6.5m and FS – 3.7m—nearly 70% coverage; FHL has most par. transcripts
- **Dorsetshire:** FS – 8.4m; FMP – 3.6m, & Ancestry.com – 6.8m;
- **Durham:** FS – has 80+% county coverage; findmypast (FMP) has some; durhamrecordsonline
- **Essex:** Essex SEAX online has abt 70%+ county coverage; FS - (3.7m) online; Ancestry – abt 2.2m entries; theGenealogist – 2.5m
- **Gloucestershire:** Ancestry.com – 10.2m; FS – 3.4m; Avon FHS CDs
- **Hampshire:** FS has 5.5m (part. pre-1750); Hants Record Office marriage index (mostly complete); FMP – 1.5m; Freereg – abt 30% coverage.
- **Herefordshire:** FS – has over 80+% county coverage up to 1880; Bertram Merrell Marr. Index
- **Hertfordshire:** FS – has nearly 90% or 1.8m up to 1875; FMP – 1.8m
- **Huntingdonshire:** FS – 1.4m; FMP has 228k burials
- **Kent:** East Kent & West Kent FHS has CDs with abt 70% marrs. coverage; FMP and FS 8.1 million; Soc. Gen. has 1813-1837 Kent mars CDs available
- **Lancashire:** FS 20m; Ancestry.com 9m; Lancashire OPC 8m
- **Leicestershire:** Leicestershire Fam. Hist. Soc. has CDs - 70% coverage; FS – 1.2m or 55%
- **Lincolnshire:** FS – 6.25m or abt 85+%; FMP – 4.5m
- **London [City of]:** FS abt 85+%; Ancestry.co.uk – abt same
- **Middlesex:** Ancestry.co.uk – 27.4+ million (~60+%, largest online); plus Pallots Marriage Index – 1780-1837 (80%); Docklands ancestors – abt 1m entries for East end parishes of Middlesex (Greater London); FS – 5 million entries; Westminster only--FS - 1.8m; FMP 3.4m for Westmin.
- **Monmouthshire:** FMP – ~1m; FS – 5.1m;
- **Norfolk:** FreeReg.org.uk - nearly 75% county coverage; FS – 4.3m; FMP – 4.3m; thegenealogist – 3.6m, completing rest of county by 2017; Ancestry – 8.5m
- **Northamptonshire:** Northamptonshire R.O. has marriage index; Northants FHS published BMB indexes on CDs - see at www.familyhistorynorthants.co.uk; Ancestry – 7.6m; FS – FHL has CDs
- **Northumberland:** FS – 2.9m or 85+% coverage; FMP – 2.3m; Joiner Marriage Index
- **Nottinghamshire:** FS – 1.8m or 75+% coverage; freereg - abt 45% coverage
- **Oxfordshire:** FS – abt 366k or ~15% coverage; Oxford FH Soc. has numerous parishes transcription publications for sale
- **Rutlandshire:** LRFHS.org.uk has numerous CDs available; FS abt 50%
- **Shropshire:** FS – largest databases for county with 85+% coverage; FMP has some
- **Somerset:** FreeReg.org.uk – has nearly 75% county coverage; Ancestry 7m; FS - 30% or 2m
- **Staffordshire:** FS – 4.8m or 85+% coverage; FMP – 4.6m

- **Suffolk:** Suffolk FHS CDs w/ abt 65% coverage (by deanery name); FS ~60+% (10m); Boyd's Marriage Index – 33% (avail. on FMP); FMP – 1m
- **Surrey:** FS – 3.7m or abt 70+% coverage; Ancestry – 3.8m; FMP has 500k
- **Sussex:** FS – 4.2+m coverage; Sussex OPC - many parishes completed; Michael Burchall index; Leeson Marriage Index; Burials - FMP
- **Warwickshire:** FS – 85+% coverage (3.3m); FMP – 2.1m; Warwickshire OPC has many parishes; Ancestry – 2.5m
- **Westmorland:** FS – largest databases for county with 70+% coverage or 1.2m
- **Wiltshire:** FS – 3m or nearly 50% coverage; Nimrod Marriage Index is complete; FMP - some
- **Worcestershire:** FS – nearly 75% coverage or 2.5m; see Birmingham and Midland Society publications; theGenealogist – 2m+ entries
- **Yorkshire:** FS – 11.5m; FMP – 11.5m; Ancestry.co.uk – 10.8m; Joiner Marriage Index – 2m+
- **Wales CMBs:** FS.org – 4.2m; FMP – 7+m (abt 65%; minus Radnor)
- **British Navy/Royal Marines:** FMP 1m
- **British Army and nationals' BMDs abroad 1730-1969:** Ancestry – 437,000
- **British Consulate BMBs 1810-1968:** Ancestry – 21,000
- **British Army Pensions:** FMP has several W.O. pension records indexed; TNA
- **British BMDs (births, deaths & marriages) at sea 1844-1890:** 437,000 Ancestry
- **British Merchant Seamen 1835-1857:** FMP – 1.9m
- **Nonconformist/nonparochial registers:** FS; thegenealogist.co.uk; bmdregisters.co.uk
- **Old Bailey Sessions (Greater London, S. England) & Accounts 1674-1913** – 1.2 m
- **Quakers:** FMP 1.3m; FS – has indexed most of its large collection of Quaker registers

Miscellaneous Notes to Finding Indexes online

- FamilySearch.org – now has some burials online for certain counties
- Probate records: most counties have county-wide indexes available online; Google under 1) county name, with the search terms “index” and “probate” (or “will”); or better, use Wiki.familysearch.org and click on “England/[name of]County/Probate”; follow steps
- “Google” the following search terms: 1) [name of] county 2) “Indexes” & 3) i.e. “Baptisms”
- www.parishregisters.com (\$)– a.k.a. East Dockland (London) Ancestors;